

HOLDERNESS CENTRAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT

Several exciting initiatives continued at Holderness Central School this year. We started Foreign Language run by volunteers in grades K-3 in preparation for the hiring of a part-time foreign language teacher in the 2006-2007 school year. Our integrated music program in conjunction with the New Hampshire Music Festival continued to expand. Many teachers attended a summer workshop put on by national expert Dr. Carroll Rinehart, who came back in the fall for a two-week residency. This culminated in the presentation of student written and led operas in grades K-2. Through this pilot program we were provided with a keyboard and class-wide student glockenspiels.

The staff spent a lot of time in self-analysis and evaluation as we prepared an extensive 15-page report with six notebooks of additional documentation on every aspect of our school. This was in application for the 2005 New Hampshire School of Excellence. We were notified in the spring that we were a finalist for this award and hosted a visiting team which examined our written evidence and sat in on every class. We were honored as the runner-up recipient of the K-8 School of the Year at the Edies Awards thanks to the dedication of this staff and community. We also again won the Blue Ribbon Award for our volunteer program.

We continue to provide enrichment activities, sports, an improved winter program, early morning and after school help sessions, and summer school. Our students have responsibly been involved in many charities and fundraisers for the needy including backpacks for the hurricane victims; food baskets, gift cards, gas vouchers, etc. for local needy families; gifts for homeless shelters, and the Humane Society. Students develop leadership skills through our student council, monthly student-led school-wide assemblies, leadership training experiences, and our S.T.A.R.S. (Students Teaching and Reaching Students) mentoring program between grade levels.

In the next few years I look forward to some building repairs and improvements to provide students and staff with the comfort and safety they deserve. We will also continue to self assess and work at improving our academics and services to students. We will continue to work on providing meaningful real-world learning experiences, developing caring and responsible citizens, and to meeting different learners' individual needs. We piloted a class for hands-on learners with Thornton this year and will look at improving and continuing this program.

I am proud to be a part of this community, staff, and school board who are all committed to providing Holderness' children with a top education in a caring environment. You make this a School of Excellence. I sincerely thank everyone for their most dedicated efforts and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra L. McLaughlin, Principal

HOLDERNESS SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL HEALTH OFFICE REPORT 2005-2006

Some events scheduled in the Health Office on a regular basis include sports' physicals and screenings. These screenings are completed based on NH State guidelines, Department of Education guidelines for school nurses and/or school district procedure. Sports' physicals are conducted by Plymouth pediatrics and scheduled typically in the autumn and spring. Pediculosis screening (lice) was completed in grades K-8 initially, and will continue throughout the school year as concerns arise. Most students will have a vision screening and a screening for hearing at some time during the school year. Some students will also participate in a postural screening for scoliosis.

What we had hoped to bid as the First Annual Blood Drive, here at Holderness Central School, was cancelled due to significant snowfall. The HCS community, students, families, friends, staff and faculty had worked together to organize and provide for food and volunteers to work with Red Cross staff, as well as to provide PR for promotion of the event. Watch for more information as we hope to reschedule the blood drive.

Mrs. Barbara Laverack, a registered dental hygienist affiliated with Speare Memorial Hospital, provides dental education and a take-home dental kit for all 221 students at HCS. Additionally, parents may sign their children up for a free in school dental screening (45 students this year) and/or a dental cleaning and fluoride treatment (27 students). The weekly fluoride rinse program is offered to students in grades 1-5 (56 students) and is administered by the school nurse, classroom teachers and aides throughout most of the school year.

Although there seemed to be a bit of uncertainty about the availability of flu shots this autumn, more folks were able to receive this prevention medication.

Based on widely published reports, hand washing is proven to make a difference in limiting the spread of illness. Make a difference. Promote hand washing. Promote wellness.

Healthy children make eager students.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruthann KlineSmith, R.N.
School Nurse

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE

This time of year allows all of us to look back at the past year to review and evaluate our plans and actions to build a stronger, better serving school district for the future of all our students.

We made significant changes in a number of areas to meet the letter and spirit of the federal No Child Left Behind legislation. All of the principals and teachers worked tirelessly to create an environment that allows every child to grow and successfully meet the educational challenges of the 21st century.

In an effort to establish consistent essential learning experiences for every student, SAU #48 has developed curriculum guides that are linked to the state standards. The Math, Literacy, Social Studies, Science and Music guides were approved by all school boards over the past year. Committees are currently drafting a Guidance Curriculum and a new Visual Arts Curriculum to be completed by this summer. The guides are available on our web site at <http://www.sau48.k12.nh.us>. In order to better focus on mastery, we use multiple assessments to determine each student's progress. Currently, in order to determine Adequate Yearly Progress, the state of NH requires the annual New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) test for all students in grades 3 through 8. High school students will continue to take the NHEIAP test in the tenth grade for the next two years. The SAU is coordinating new initiatives to better emphasize the depth of learning and interdisciplinary instruction. Plymouth Regional High School and several of the elementary schools are studying Curriculum Mapping as a tool for curriculum decision-making, communication, and professional development. In addition, schools are studying literacy across the curriculum. Title I programs within our schools include a supplementary literacy intervention designed to accelerate the development of literacy skills for readers, professional development for their teachers, and a process for monitoring student progress that includes the administration of student assessments. Our Reading Recovery programs are highly effective short-term intervention of one-on-one tutoring for low-achieving first graders.

Technology plans in all our schools ensure that technology strengthens existing curricula and supports meaningful, engaged learning for all students. Professional development opportunities have included the provision of an integrated approach within all curriculum areas through an information and communication technologies literacy (ICT) program. We will continue to develop digital technology and communication tools that provide opportunities for students to demonstrate ICT competency by the end of eighth grade.

Our School Boards continue to evaluate the buildings and grounds which are owned by the districts. Plymouth and Thornton have recently completed significant building improvements. The voters in Campton this March will be voting on a proposal to renovate and upgrade their facility and the Holderness School Board is reviewing and preparing to initiate a study to review its building needs.

All of us are cognizant that our building and grounds are significant investments, supported by generations of citizens. We are ever vigilant to protect these valuable community assets.

On behalf of all the students, teachers, and staff throughout SAU 48, we thank you for your continued support and good wishes. Please know how much we value the opportunity to serve our communities.

Mark J. Halloran, Superintendent
Ethel Gaides, Assistant Superintendent
Kathleen Boyle, Assistant Superintendent

**HOLDERNESS SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES REPORT
PER RSA 32:11-A**

	Fiscal Year 2003/2004	Fiscal Year 2004/2005
Expenditures	\$524,224	\$531,402
Revenues	\$147,382	\$22,457
Net Expenditures	\$376,842	\$508,945
\$ increase/decrease		\$132,103
% increase/decrease		35.06%